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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590 11/19/2004

Attn: Stephen P. Evans, Esq.
Marshall & Melhorn, LLC
Eighth Floor
Four SeaGate
Toledo, OH 43604

RECEIVED

EXAMINER

RODRIGUEZ, SAUL

DEC 16 2004

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

GROUP 3600

3681

DATE MAILED: 11/19/2004

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/677,928	10/02/2003	Mark RJ Versteyhe	1-15977	9583

TITLE OF INVENTION: CLUTCH BRAKING IN A MULTI-SPEED TRANSMISSION

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1370	\$300	\$1670	02/22/2005

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to:

Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
or Fax **(703) 746-4000**

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

7590 11/19/2004

Attn: Stephen P. Evans, Esq.
Marshall & Melhorn, LLC
Eighth Floor
Four SeaGate
Toledo, OH 43604

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission
I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (703) 746-4000, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/677,928	10/02/2003	Mark RJ Versteyhe	I-15977	9583

TITLE OF INVENTION: CLUTCH BRAKING IN A MULTI-SPEED TRANSMISSION

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1370	\$300	\$1670	02/22/2005

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
RODRIGUEZ, SAUL	3681	477-083000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).	2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.
<input type="checkbox"/> Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.	1 _____

- "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

- Issue Fee
 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
 Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

- A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
 The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above. NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.



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7590	11/19/2004		EXAMINER	
			RODRIGUEZ, SAUL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3681	
DATE MAILED: 11/19/2004				

Attn: Stephen P. Evans, Esq.
Marshall & Melhorn, LLC
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Toledo, OH 43604

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/677,928	VERSTEHYHE, MARK RJ S
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Saúl J. Rodríguez	3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to ____.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. The drawings filed on ____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other ____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 recites the combination of a prime mover, a transmission system with a first and second stages and range and direction clutches, an output shaft, and a torque converter; wherein one of the range clutches and one the direction clutches are kinematically locked and at least one other range clutch is slipped and at least one other direction clutch is slipped to brake the transmission system.

Claim 7 recites the combination of a prime mover, a transmission system with a first and second stages and range and direction clutches, an output shaft, and a torque converter; wherein at least two of the range clutches are locked together and the directional clutches are slipped about the range clutches to brake the transmission system.

Claim 13 recites the combination of a prime mover, a transmission system with a first and second stages and range and direction clutches, an output shaft, and a torque converter; wherein the range clutches are opened and one of the directional clutches is locked, and the remaining directional clutches are slipped to brake the transmission.

The aforementioned combinations are not shown or taught by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 3681

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

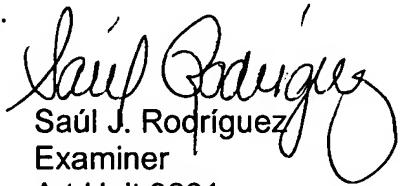
Pecceu ('728) disclose another multi stage transmission. Muller discloses a multi-stage transmission comprising a conventional hydrodynamic braking device. Tsuboi et al. and Antonov disclose other multi-stage transmission having means for engine braking.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saúl J. Rodríguez whose telephone number is (703) 308-7575. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on (703) 308-308-0830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3681

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Saúl J. Rodríguez
Examiner
Art Unit 3681


SJR

Notice of References Cited			Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination	
			10/677,928	VERSTEHYHE, MARK RJ	
Examiner			Saúl J. Rodríguez	Art Unit 3681	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
X	A	US-4,471,670	09-1984	Muller, Helmut	74/731.1
X	B	US-5,213,551 A	05-1993	Antonov, Roumen A.	475/257
X	C	US-5,676,026	10-1997	Tsuboi et al.	74/606R
X	D	US-6,044,728 A	04-2000	Pecceu, Hendrik	74/730.1
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

NOTICE OF DRAFTSPERSON'S PATENT DRAWING REVIEW

The drawing(s) filed (insert date) *10/2/03* are:

- A. approved by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152.
B. objected to by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152 for the reasons indicated below. Corrected drawings are required.

- 1. DRAWINGS.** 37 CFR 1.84(a): Acceptable categories of drawings: Black ink or Color (3 sets required).
 Color drawings are not acceptable until petition is granted. Fig(s) _____
 Pencil and non black ink not permitted. Fig(s) _____
- 2. PHOTOGRAPHS.** 37 CFR 1.84(b)
 One (1) full-tone set is required. Fig(s) _____
 Photographs may not be mounted. 37 CFR 1.84(e)
 Photographs must meet paper size requirements of 37 CFR 1.84(f). Fig(s) _____
 Poor quality (half-tone). Fig(s) _____
- 3. TYPE OF PAPER.** 37 CFR 1.84(e)
 Paper not flexible, strong, white, and durable. Fig(s) _____
 Erasures, alterations, overwritings, interlineations, folds, copy machine marks not accepted. Fig(s) _____
- 4. SIZE OF PAPER.** 37 CFR 1.84(f): Acceptable sizes:
21.0 cm by 29.7 cm (DIN size A4) or
21.6 cm by 27.9 cm (8 1/2x 11 inches)
 All drawing sheets not the same size.
Sheet(s) _____
 Drawings sheets not an acceptable size. Fig(s) _____
- 5. MARGINS.** 37 CFR 1.84(g): Acceptable margins: Top 2.5 cm Left 2.5 cm Right 1.5 cm Bottom 1.0 cm
 Margins not acceptable. Fig(s) _____
 Top (T) Left (L)
 Right (R) Bottom (B)
- 6. VIEWS.** 37 CFR 1.84(h)
REMINDER: Specification may require revision to correspond to drawing changes, e.g., if Fig. 1 is changed to Fig. 1A, Fig 1B and Fig. 1C, etc., the specification, at the Brief Description of the Drawings, must likewise be changed.
 Views not labeled separately or properly. Fig(s) _____
- 7. SECTIONAL VIEWS.** 37 CFR 1.84(h)(3)
 Sectional designation should be noted with Arabic or Roman numbers. Fig(s) _____

- 8. ARRANGEMENT OF VIEWS.** 37 CFR 1.84(i)
 Words do not appear on a horizontal, left-to-right fashion when page is either upright or turned so that the top becomes the right side, except for graphs. Fig(s) _____
- 9. SCALE.** 37 CFR 1.84(k)
 Scale not large enough to show mechanism without crowding when drawing is reduced in size to two-thirds in reproduction. Fig(s) _____
- 10. CHARACTER OF LINES, NUMBERS, & LETTERS.** 37 CFR 1.84(l)
 Lines, numbers & letters not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable, and black (poor line quality). Fig(s) _____
- 11. SHADING.** 37 CFR 1.84(m)
 Solid black areas pale. Fig(s) _____
 Solid black shading not permitted. Fig(s) _____
- 12. NUMBERS, LETTERS, & REFERENCE CHARACTERS.** 37 CFR 1.84(p)
 Numbers and reference characters not plain and legible. Fig(s) _____
 Figure legends are poor. Fig(s) _____
 Numbers and reference characters not oriented in the same direction as the view. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(1) Fig(s) _____
 English alphabet not used. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(2) Fig(s) _____
 Numbers, letters and reference characters must be at least 32 cm (1/8 inch) in height. 37 CFR 1.84(p)(3). Fig(s) _____
- 13. LEAD LINES.** 37 CFR 1.84(q)
 Lead lines missing. Fig(s) _____
- 14. NUMBERING OF SHEETS OF DRAWINGS.** 37 CFR 1.84(t)
 Sheets not numbered consecutively, and in Arabic numbers beginning with number 1. Sheet(s) _____
- 15. NUMBERING OF VIEWS.** 37 CFR 1.84(u)
 Views not numbered consecutively, and in Arabic numerals, beginning with number 1. Fig(s) _____
- 16. DESIGN DRAWINGS.** 37 CFR 1.152
 Surface shading shown not appropriate. Fig(s) _____
 Solid black surface shading is not permitted except when used to represent the color black as well as color contrast. Fig(s) _____

COMMENTS:

Reviewer: *John*

If you have questions, call (703) 305-8404.

Date *11/15/04*

Attachment to Paper No. _____